

The Tucumcari News

AND TUCUMCARI TIMES

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MANY REASONS TO VETO SALARY ACT

Santa Fe, Feb. 26.—The message conveying the executive disapproval of the salary measure sets forth in some detail criticisms by the governor of the bill's provisions. It is as follows:

"Santa Fe, N. M., February 26, 1915. 'To the House of Representatives, Second State Legislature, Santa Fe, New Mexico:

"Gentlemen: I return to you without my approval, Amended House Bill No. 129, entitled 'An Act Relating to County Officers,' with my objections to the same.

"I regret exceedingly the necessity that impels me to take this action, but to sign this bill would, I feel, violate the trust which I hold for the people of New Mexico. To permit it to become a law without my approval would imply a lack of courage to meet the emergency, thus stultifying myself, at least in my own consciousness, if not in the eyes of the people. In the classification of counties, two counties of the first class have about \$22,000,000 worth of property each; while one other has less than \$15,000,000. Between first and second class counties there is a difference in valuation of \$5,750,000; between second and third class counties a difference of \$1,750,000; and between third and fourth class counties \$1,750,000. The difference in salaries, including deputies, between first and second class counties is about 25 per cent; between second and third class counties 33 1-3 to 50 per cent, and between third and fourth class counties an average of about 35 per cent.

"The difference between valuation in second and fourth class counties is \$3,500,000. The salaries for second class counties are on an average over 80 per cent higher than in fourth class counties. The salaries in the higher class of counties are not only too high in themselves, but much higher for the services to be performed than in the lower class of counties.

"The work in any county treasurer's office in the state can be done for \$2,000 or less. Should the treasurer have \$2,000 for supervision that in some cases at least, does not supervise? The assessor is not necessarily actually employed much more than six months in the year. Two good men who know how to do the work, can do it in six or seven months.

"No county clerk earns more than \$2,500 and deputy hire can be provided according to the fees earned in the office, so that the allowance for deputies may increase as the fees increase. The provision for clerk hire is not just to some of the counties and is noticeably unfair when a method is adaptable that may be just alike to all.

"No provision is made for traveling expenses for superintendents of schools. I consider this is as necessary as for sheriffs. The better the work done in our schools the less need there will be for officers to prevent violations of the law. The county surveyors would probably have to shift for themselves without pay.

"In one county the pay for an official is fixed apparently according to someone's idea of the work to be done, since he is provided with only \$750.

"The average for ministers of the gospel throughout the United States, I understand to be about \$663 per annum. The average for school teachers in the state of New Mexico is \$488.01; the average for city superintendents of schools is, I believe, something less than \$2,000.

"The compensation provided for the county clerk for work done in the district court is, in my opinion, excessive in third class counties.

"The provision in Section 9 for repayment of moneys already received by county officers in excess of what is provided under this bill, is objectionable and open to criticism of the taxpayers, though it might be satisfactory to the officials who had to make repayments. I do not quite understand the full meaning of this section, nor do I think the average county commissioner, nor possibly the district attorney, would be able to interpret it.

The burden of taxation apparently

weighs heavily upon our people and is bitterly complained of by the taxpayers. When the constitution of the state was under consideration before its adoption, it was claimed that placing county officers on a salary basis would make a reduction of expenses from the old fee system. I believe it is even now claimed that this bill will cause a reduction from what the fees formerly were of something like 50 per cent.

"Now consider for a moment that the only two officers who were paid directly by the fees earned in the office were sheriffs and clerks. Each of the assessors and treasurers was permitted to withhold four per cent of all tax collections as compensation, so that compensation was limited to specific sums. Under this bill, in section 13, it is provided that 'from all taxes and licenses of whatever character that may be collected, 8 per centum shall be deducted and covered into the salary fund.' This is in addition to all fees collected by the various officials, and those fees also go into the salary fund.

"This being the substance of the bill I am at a loss to know how anyone is to reach the conclusion that we shall save 50 per cent to the taxpayers of the state by such legislation.

"In section 19 it is provided that 'from and after the first day of January, 1915, the classification of counties shall be fixed and governed by the assessed valuations as finally fixed for the preceding calendar year.' Under this, should the basis of valuation be fixed as I understand it is contemplated by the legislature, at the full cash value, to be determined by a tax commission, or other authority with power to fix these values as they ought to be fixed, many of the counties now in other classes would be in the first class in 1917 to remain there for four years with salaries provided for in this bill for officers in the first class counties.

"This is in many respects about the same as the former salary bills. The salary bill provided at the first session of the first state legislature was wrong; those presented since were wrong, and this one is wrong. It is not fair and just to the taxpayers of New Mexico. They are entitled to an equal show with the officials. This bill is not fair and just and should not become law.

"My opinion is that the salary of no official should be over \$2,750 net to him and that the minimum should be \$1,400. I believe that traveling expenses should be provided for every official whenever in the discharge of his duties he is required to leave the county seat.

"It seems to me that not much difficulty should be encountered in framing a salary bill if it is taken up in a business way without regard to those affected. First, the salaries of the officials themselves can be considered as fixed definitely from the top to the bottom. The work for the official himself is not much different in most of the counties. After the salaries have been fixed definitely sufficient allowance should be made for the deputies in the various counties to cover all the necessities of the office, and be made according to the probabilities of what would be required in the offices of each class of counties.

"I shall not at this time attempt to discuss motives and purposes. The facts, as embodied in this bill, are quite sufficient for present consideration, so I willingly and confidently leave the conclusions to be drawn in accordance with the viewpoint and interest of those chiefly concerned.

"Respectfully yours,
William C. McDonald,
Governor."

DISTURBS PEACE

Jim Kersley was arrested Tuesday night at the home of Jane Read where he had been staying. He was charged with breaking into the house of Tules de Arando and disturbing her peace. Several witnesses were examined and after considering the evidence Kersley was fined \$25 and costs. He was unable to pay fine so he was given a jail sentence of 20 days. This is good for three meals a day and exercise with the street gang.

NEW COUNTY SCHEME IS NIPPED IN BUD

The scheme to put Montoya in Guadalupe county then form a new county from the east side of Guadalupe was nipped in the bud.

Alex. Street returned from Santa Fe yesterday and says if the move taken by the commercial club last Thursday had not been made the scheme would have gone through the house, and the citizens of Montoya precinct would have been thrown in another county.

Representatives Toombs, Mann and Montoya were responsible for the defeat of the bill in the caucus and promise to assist in defeating same if it is ever brought up again.

Mr. Gallegos swears he had nothing to do with putting this bill over, but evidently somebody did and it came near getting through. Even the citizens of Newkirk, the proposed county seat, knew nothing about this movement.

Petitions were circulated in the Montoya precinct asking that their property be left in Quay county and was freely signed by everybody.

The taxes of this county are as low and reasonable as possible at this time. Next year the T. & M. railroad will add materially when taxes will be paid for that road for the first time.

It costs money to form new counties and benefits but few, so let everybody think twice before they sign a petition to be cut off in another county where they will be bonded to the limit to build new court house, etc.

DECISION AFFIRMED

Word was received last week from Santa Fe that the supreme court had affirmed the decision of the lower court when it awarded judgment in favor of C. W. Durrett to the amount of \$1298.50 damages to trainload of cattle.

This case was tried before Judge Lieb and the railroad company was represented by Hawkins & Franklin of El Paso, and Ed Mechem of Alamogordo. Mr. Durrett's side was efficiently handled by Harry H. McElroy. He won the case here and the railroad company appealed to the supreme court. Briefs were printed and both sides put up forcible arguments, but the higher court decided in favor of Mr. Durrett.

This victory shows Attorney McElroy knows his business and leaves nothing undone to show his clients are entitled to win, and his arguments are intelligent and convincing.

BANK PROBE

Las Cruces, N. M., March 2.—The legislative committee, except Mr. Rutherford, arrived this morning as passengers on the special train carrying the Albuquerque boosters to the Cattlemen's convention in El Paso. Mr. Rutherford is said to have left Santa Fe several days ago and is supposed to be in El Paso as a delegate to the convention. He will be here tonight or tomorrow. The party arrived in the midst of the worst snow storm for years. After breakfast the Republican members went to the office of Holt and Sutherland where they remained in conference with Reed Holloman, attorney, and John Joerns; auditor appointed by the committee to investigate the First State bank and the State College as to their financial condition and relations. Mr. Alldredge, the Democratic committee man, flocked by himself until he got lonesome, when he repaired to the office of John H. Paxton, president of the regents of the State College and chairman of the Democratic state central committee, where he foregathered with C. C. Davidson, attorney for Minority and presumed personal representative of Governor McDonald, although he denies the latter impeachment.

WHY TAX SOME?

The article written by "Real Estate Man" last week voices our sentiments. We have been running a rooming house for several years and have been forced to "dig-up" every three months or quit business, while others who style themselves "private" carry on a wholesale business without being asked to pay a license, some of them located on the main business streets of our city.

Hotel Keeper

FACTORY MACHINERY WILL BE HERE SOON

We have had several inquiries lately as to when this factory will be ready for business, but on account of not hearing from Mr. Raymond we were unable to give any definite date.

The big warehouse was leased to Mr. Dodson and he had it filled with hides, grain, etc. He very generously promised to vacate by March 1st, and has done so. This building is now being moved to the ground donated to Mr. Raymond, and placed in position to receive the machinery.

The following message received Saturday from Mr. Raymond shows that he will be here soon and the building will be ready none too soon to receive the machinery. Here is the message:

"I am shipping today first car of machinery. This should reach Tucumcari in ten days. I hope building will be ready by time machinery reaches there. Kindly give my regards to everybody. Will be with you by time machinery arrives.

A. H. Raymond."

We are certainly glad to know that our city was chosen as the logical point in which to put this factory. Letters are being received from every direction in regard to when factory will open and whether newly cut grass can be used. We understand that grass must have been cut at least sixty days and dry.

When the factory is ready to receive shipments Mr. Raymond will no doubt place buyers in the territory and good prices will be paid for the product. There is nothing else to say and do until this factory begins to turn out finished product but we advise those who have any bear grass to harvest or market to be of good cheer because this is a sure go and means much to land owners in eastern New Mexico.

"VENDETTA"

Movie fans will hail with joy the announcement of George Kleine's latest venture in filmdom, the picture of Marie Corelli's famous novel, "Vendetta." It would be hard to imagine a subject better adapted to the histrionic possibilities of the silent drama or one that could yield more thrills. The greswome story of Count Fabio Romani awakening in his own coffin and returning home only to find his faithless wife in the arms of his dearest friend, are story elements capable of strong expression. Incidentally, the camera robs them of much that is unpleasant without losing any of their dramatic essentials. Opera house, Wednesday, Mar. 10. Prices 10c and 20c.

FLINT-SMITH

Thursday, February 25th, at the home of Judge and Mrs. J. D. Cutlip, occurred one of the prettiest home weddings that has happened in Tucumcari when Caddie B. Smith, of Murdock, this county, was united in marriage to Homer D. Flint, of the same place.

A. F. Coddington officiated as best man, and Miss Nellie Hershberger was bridesmaid, while little Miss Florence Prentice made a pretty flower girl. The wedding service was conducted by Judge Cutlip in his inimitable way. Only a few intimate friends were present as the participating couple desired no notoriety, hoping to surprise their host of friends in Tucumcari and in the Murdock neighborhood.

After the ceremony a sumptuous wedding repast was served by Mrs. Cutlip, assisted by Mrs. R. A. Prentice and the evening was spent in games and merrymaking.

Mrs. Flint is perhaps the most widely known lady in this county, on account of being United States Land Commissioner at Murdock, a post held by few women in the whole country.

Mr. Flint has not been a resident of Quay county for so long a time as his bride, but comes well recommended from Colorado and Kansas, in which states he has represented the Western Union Telegraph Company since 1904.

The many friends join this paper in expressions of good will and hopes for a long and happy journey together through life.

WANTS TO KNOW

How about our south roads we have been hearing so much about? Good roads sounds good but are we going to have good roads from the parts of the county where stuff is raised? Roads that start nowhere and end nowhere are of no benefit to any community.

We refer to the Amarillo road and west. Why don't we build roads where we need them? If we continue building roads as at present no town or community will be benefited one iota. Let us away with false pride and leave transcontinental roads with "high-fluting" names to one side and build roads that will benefit the county.

Will the Good Roads Commissioners build roads to bring trade to communities interested or will they continue to deal as heretofore in transcontinental dreams? The public is entitled to know.

If these bonds are voted on the people the money should be put into the hands of a man or set of men who know how to build roads that will be of benefit to the property owners—the people who pay the bill. Farmer.

WILLIAM JEFFREY

William Jeffrey died Friday at the home of his mother, Mrs. Thomas Jeffrey, north of Tucumcari. The cause of his death was pneumonia.

The deceased was well known in this section and was held in high esteem. He was a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church and died in that faith. He leaves behind to mourn his loss a mother, three sisters and two brothers. One of his sisters, Miss Grace Jeffrey is at present one of the teachers in the Tucumcari Schools.

The body was taken to Quay for burial Saturday. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. Hugins of Quay.

THE FOUND

Now Mister Brown
Drove into town
And turned his plug aloose.
"I'll come right back
To this old hack
To tie him, what's the use?"
An auto honk
Made that old bronk
Light out, and run "like Ned."
Endanger life
Of child and wife,
Of infant and grey head.
The "City Dads,"
They asked no scads;
They put no team in pound.
"The Law, they state,
Is inviolate—
"He drove a hack around."
Old "Widow How"
(Who keeps a cow)
Has children four "to raise."
A common's near,
Feed is so dear—
She ties her there to graze.

She pulls her stake,
Or rope does break;
She's nowhere to be found.
Sought high and low,
At last they go
And find her in the "Pound."
A dollar is
The cost, and 'tis
The last bone in her purse.
But she can rub
At the wash tub,
Her crime could not be worse.
For folks have lawns,
And cows have horns,
She might have e't their grass.
It might be she
Would bark a tree,
Or break a window glass.
Just hitch your cows,
When they would browse
On grass or tumble weed,
To some old hack,
And then, by Jack,
To them they'll pay no heed.

C. E. Cusack.

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY

We, the teachers of the Tucumcari Schools, wish to express our deep sympathy with one of our fellow-workers, Miss Grace L. Jeffrey, in the sickness and death of her brother.

Better than cold words of formal comfort is the assurance we desire to give that we appreciate the burden of grief which our associate is bearing. And coupled with our sympathy with the gloomy today is our trust in a gladder tomorrow for her and hers.

In that after world of happiness
Where our loved ones abide,
All questions shall be answered,
All longings satisfied.

By all the Teachers.

HENS CUT HIGH COST OF LIVING

At a time when eggs are drawing good prices the Quay county hens are doing their part to bring money in to help build up the country.

C. W. Carman, who buys eggs on the plains and between here and Puerto, delivered one thousand and fifty dozen to a local buyer Friday on his regular weekly trip. This means 12,600 eggs from one vicinity and shows the citizens of Quay county are not on the verge of starvation.

SALARY BILL REMEDIED

A bill to correct a defect in Section 3 of the Republican county salary bill, passed over the governor's veto last Friday, was introduced in the senate late Monday afternoon by Mr. Holt. It is Senate Bill No. 164. Mr. Holt explained that the bill as passed limited the traveling expenses of sheriffs in civil cases to service originating in or on behalf of the state or county, and stated that they were entitled to traveling expenses in connection with all civil processes. He said the defect was a result of the various redrafts of the bill. Under a suspension of the rules, the bill was passed unanimously by the senate, and last night was reported to the house.

CLAUDE HENRY

Claude Henry, who came here the latter part of last week from Caruthersville, Mo., died Monday at the Adams House. The young man came West in an effort to recover from an advanced case of tuberculosis but his coming was too late. He stated that he had no near relatives. The funeral services were held at the local Undertaking parlors by Rev. A. N. Evans. The body was interred in the Sunnyside Cemetery.

CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

The United States Civil Service Commission invites attention to the opportunity for appointment of qualified persons from the open competitive examination for teacher in the Indian Service, for both men and women, scheduled to be held on April 14-15, 1915, at all places marked "(E)" in section 2 of the Manual of Examinations for the Spring of 1915.

Full information in regard to entrance salaries and conditions of employment in the Indian Service is contained in section 32 of the Manual of Examinations for the Spring of 1915, and full information in regard to the scope and character of and requirements for the examination is contained in section 265 of the Manual.

This examination is open to all citizens of the United States who meet the requirements.
Salary \$72 and \$60; term 10 months; vacation 30 days with pay; \$30 a month for housekeeper, can be wife of male teacher. Examination may be taken in Tucumcari.

W. Herrie, Sec'y, C. S.
Tucumcari, N. M.

KIRK

The plains country of Quay county is wishing for a little dry weather for oat planting.

Billie Ferguson and J. E. Mitchell of Petersburg, Hale county, Texas, are here prospecting. They will probably locate as they like the country.

J. C. Brown, who has been at Hobart, Oklahoma the past two years, is back on his place.

The infant son of L. O. Hudson and wife died Sunday, Feb. 21 and was buried at the Rayland cemetery Tuesday evening. The grief stricken parents have our deepest sympathy in this seemingly unaccountable loss.

D. D. Branson and Sons sold a bunch of calves to Harry Frost of Puerto, N. M.

Charley Smith, recently from Oklahoma, entertained the young people of this community Tuesday night.

J. T. Stalcup Jr. sold a span of mules to Warren Wilkerson one day last week.

Clay Smith of Lawton, Okla., is now a resident of this part of Quay county.

D. D. Branson and son made a business trip to Tucumcari last week.

Miss Grace Mason and Bonnie Branson were guests at the Hoyland home Sunday night.

Silvie and Roy Branson attended the dance at Quay Friday night.

A. N. Mason and family are going to move to Ima this week.

Mrs. Caddy B. Smith and Homer Flint were married Friday.

Hugh Warren was a guest at the H. R. Branson home Sunday.